

Claims:

1. Discharge device (1) with a metered dose valve (2) for metered discharge of a pressurized liquid (4), wherein the metered dose valve (2) comprises a valve element (5) and a metering chamber (6) with an associated inlet valve (7) and an associated outlet valve (8), wherein the outlet valve (8) is closed and the inlet valve (7) is open in a first position of the valve element (5) so that the liquid (4) can fill the metering chamber (6) with a metered dose, and wherein the outlet valve (8) is open and the inlet valve (7) is closed in a second position of the valve element (5) so that the liquid (4) is discharged from the metering chamber (6) to the atmosphere,

characterized in

that an intermediate position of the valve element (5) can be selected so that the inlet valve (7) and outlet valve (8) are closed, wherein the valve element (5) can be actuated and moved between the intermediate and the second position so that one metered dose of the liquid (4) can be discharged discontinuately or in more than one actuation of the valve element (5).

2. Discharge device according to claim 1, characterized in that the valve element (5) is biased into the first and/or intermediate position.

3. Discharge device according to claim 2, characterized in that the valve element (5) is biased by means of a spring (15), preferably wherein the spring (15) is located within the metering chamber (6).

4. Discharge device according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the valve element (5) is depressible, preferably by means of an actuation member (17), like a discharge head, against the biasing force from the intermediate position into a second position.

5. Discharge device according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the valve element (5) is depressible, preferably by means of an actuation member (17), like a dis-

charge head, against a biasing force from the first position into the intermediate position, preferably until a first stop (19) is reached defining the intermediate position.

6. Discharge device according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the discharge device (1) comprises a first locking means for selectively locking valve actuation or movement from the intermediate position into the second position.

7. Discharge device according to claims 5 and 6, characterized in that the first locking means comprises the first stop (19).

8. Discharge device according to claim 6 or 7, characterized in that the first locking means is locked and unlocked by rotating the valve element (5), an associated actuation member (17), like a discharge head, and/or a housing or locking element (18) of the discharge device (1).

9. Discharge device according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the discharge device (1) comprises a second locking means for selectively locking valve actuation or movement from the intermediate position into the first position.

10. Discharge device according to claim 9, characterized in that the second locking means forms a second stop (22) preventing movement of the valve element (5) from the intermediate position into the first position due by a biasing force, when the second locking means is locked.

11. Discharge device according to claim 9 or 10, characterized in that the second locking means is locked and unlocked by rotating the valve element (5), an associated actuation member (17), like a discharge head, and/or a housing or locking element (18) of the discharge device (1).

12. Discharge device according to any one of claims 6 to 8 and according to any one of claims 9 to 11, characterized in that the first locking means is unlocked when the second locking means is locked and vice versa.

5 13. Discharge device according to any one of claims 6 to 12, characterized in that the discharge device (1) comprises an actuation member (17), like a discharge head, associated to the valve element (5), wherein the actuation member (17) comprises a preferably protruding portion (20) engageable into a recess (23) of a housing or locking member (18) of the discharge device (1) or metered dose valve (2) for forming the first and/or second locking means.

10 14. Discharge device according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the discharge device (1) or its metered dose valve (2) is designed such that the time for completely discharging one metered dose of liquid (4) from the metering chamber (6) in the second position exceeds at least 2 s, preferably at least 5 s.

15 15. Discharge device according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the discharge device (1) or its metered dose valve (2) can be switched between a discharge state and a non-discharge state, in particular by twisting an actuation member (17), like a discharge head, or a housing or locking element (18).

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